2019 GSTC Asia Pacific Sustainable Tourism Conference Excursions by Khiri Travel

To book one of the tours below, please contact Khiri’s Chiang Mai office directly at: chiangmai.branch@khiri.com

Full day **Best of Chiang Mai**
**Meals:** None
Meet our guide at your hotel and drive to the riverfront Warorot Market, Chiang Mai’s bustling ‘Chinatown’ quarter extending on both sides of Chang Mai Road. Be prepared for an assault on your senses as you encounter unfamiliar sights, smells and bustling crowds. Nearby is the Hmong hill tribe market, while facing the Ping River is the photogenic flower market. From here we head to Thapae Gate, one of the four original city gates, where we continue by samlor, or rickshaw to a number of temples, including Wat Chiang Man, Wat Phra Singh and Wat Chedi Luang. You will also have the chance to meet with an English-speaking monk, who will answer your questions and offer some insight into Chiang Mai’s past. After this we have lunch at a nice restaurant, before driving up into the hills to visit Wat Phra That Doi Suthep, a sacred temple named after Doi Suthep Mountain with impressive views looking down on Chiang Mai. After participating in a blessing ceremony and admiring the view we drive back to your hotel.

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**Chiang Mai foodie tour by bicycle** 3 - 4 hours
**Meals:** D
We'll gather at our shop near Chiang Mai Gate at 4:30pm for a 5pm departure. We promise that there will be something tasty for everyone to eat. Vegetarians are welcome. Come cycle with us to discover authentic Thai cuisine on this unique food tour. The cycling is easy, the food delicious and with a genuine connection other local culinary boys of Chiang Mai. Meandering the small lanes throughout the old city and beyond to visit some of the city’s best-kept dining secrets.

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**Evening Tuk Tuk tour with sightseeing temples and food stalls in 2 hours**
**Meals:** snacks
We will pick you up at the hotel 18.30 and head to the Old City of Chiang Mai. Driving around Chiang Mai in the evening is more peaceful than during the day and you get to see the nighttime view of the city. We will travel around the old Chiang Mai city walls and moat that are laid out in a square. We will visit old temples along the way and pass many iconic Chiang Mai landmarks such
as the World War II Iron Bridge, the Three Kings Monument and night markets. We bring you back
to the hotel or if you prefer another destination like the night market we can do that also.

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**Half Day Chiang Mai’s Markets, Mouthwatering Snacks & Monks**

*Meals: snacks*

Early start for arriving at 06.30 at Chiang Mai Gate Market, a traditional market where you will find fresh vegetables, fruit, fruit-shakes, spices, cooked chicken, fish, sweets, coffee and other food products. Our guide will let you sample some typical Thai snacks, appetizer!

Of course the monks are making their alms rounds as well!

Afterwards return to your hotel for breakfast.

Following breakfast we take a “songtaew” to the riverfront (and much larger) Worarot Market. Be ready for colorful flowers, unfamiliar smells and friendly crowds. Nearby textiles, hill tribe clothes, silks, hats and beads can be found as well. From the market we go to Thapae Gate, one of the four original city gates, where we will continue by “samlor,” or rickshaw.

You have the opportunity to stop at Wat Chiang Man, Wat Chedi Luang and Wat Phra Singh, during this cyclo part.

At the last temple you will meet an English-speaking monk for a chat.

Afterwards either return to your hotel or continue exploring the old city on own.

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**Half Day Doi Suthep / Doi Pui National Park**

*Meals: None*

Early departure at 07.30 for a half day trip to this wonderful national park, declared in 1981. We will start our exploration at the observatory where you will make a short nature walk through deciduous oak forest and mixed deciduous evergreen forest. Your guide will explain about the different forest types in the national park. We continue to visit Wat Prathat Doi Suthep, the most famous temple of Chiang Mai. In the temple we will get a blessing from the monk

After this visit we will walk to the national park headquarters where we will stop briefly at the tree nursery of FORRU, the forest restoration unit of Chiang Mai University. We will embark on a nature walk through evergreen forest. You will hear the remarkable story of the giant fig tree and enjoy the towering trees, wild banana trees, ferns, Pandanus and various palms.

Drive back to hotel before noon.

End of program

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Half Day **Historical Chiang Mai by samlor**

**Meals: Snacks**

Our Chiang Mai History Lesson by samlor takes you back in time. On this tour we will visit a number of heritages houses and places in Chiang Mai. Pictures from yesteryear will bring history to life. In that respect this tour is a kind of “then and now” experience. Your guide will show you old pictures of some of the places we visit. The samlor is the traditional mode of public transportation in Chiang Mai. The drivers are mostly veterans who have pedaled the streets of Chiang Mai for decades. We support them and also want to make a case for the preservation of Chiang Mai’s heritage houses and buildings.

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**The Karen Experience – 2 days**

**Day 1: Chiang Mai - Karen Village**

**Meals: L D**

Your guide will meet you at the hotel. Your hilltribe adventure begins. Our first stop will be at a beautiful typical Northern Thai local market where your guide will do his shopping for the coming days and will explain about some of the local specialties that are for sale here. Continue after this, drive to the start point of the trek. Today we will walk mostly uphill. We will follow a great mountain trail along a sparkling stream with crystal clear water until we reach a camp besides a waterfall. Here we will stay for a while, enjoying a swim in the cool water. Your guide will prepare lunch. After lunch we will trek further up the mountain to a first Karen village. Here we will stop for a chat and say hello to the many pigs...Then we are set for the final stage to the Karen village where we will spend the night. We will first reach the Royal Project of the village. Your guide will explain about this interesting agricultural project. The last part of our hike leads us through dense forest. After arrival in the Karen village where we will spend the night your guide will introduce you to your host for tonight. You can explore the village while he starts to prepare dinner. You are welcome to help him with cooking. We also encourage you to practice some Karen language with your host after dinner while your guide.

Overnight will be in a house in the Karen village.

**Day 2: Karen Village – Chiang Mai**

**Meals: B L D**

Rise with the roosters. Your guide will prepare a hearty breakfast. After breakfast we will start our descent back to civilization. We pass ricefields and trek through beautiful dipterocarp forest before we reach another Karen village, we can explore around the village before continue trekking. We will have picnic lunch in the jungle. Continue walking about 2 hours to a pretty waterfall where we will spend some time relaxing, swimming and enjoying nature. After a short walk we will see our trekking truck parked along the road. After this we board our trekking truck for the drive back to Chiang Mai. On the way back we will stop at a beautiful market before we drop you off at your hotel or guesthouse. End of the program

Please note:
Due to weather conditions and other conditions on the ground we might have to adjust the itinerary of this trekking. If it is necessary to adjust the program we will always make sure that the quality of your holiday experience and your personal safety are safeguarded.

Things to bring on a trekking:
- Short sleeve shirts for the day time (bring a spare one, just in case)
- Long sleeves for the evening (especially in the winter Nov - Feb it can be a bit cold)
- Shoes with good grip (especially in the raining season from May - Sep)
- A cap
- Suncream
- Flip flops
- Sun glasses
- Your personal toiletries
- Personal medication
- Fully charged batteries or even an extra battery for your camera/mobile phone (*).
- 1000-1500 Thai Baht per person in small notes (not bigger than 100 Thai Baht). This is for souvenirs, drinks and tips.
  (*) Note that there won't be any signal at times!

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